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United Nations

Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2010

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Letter of transmittal

[30 June 2010]

Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the honour to transmit herewith to the General Assembly the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/106 of 10 December 2009. The report covers the work of the Special Committee during 2010.

(*Signed*) Donatus Keith **St. Aimee**
Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard
to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of
Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

Chapter I

Establishment, organization and activities of the Special Committee

A. Establishment of the Special Committee

1. The establishment and history of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is covered in detail in paragraphs 2 to 8 of the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/2010/L.1).

2. At its sixty-fourth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee (A/64/23), the General Assembly adopted resolution 64/106, in which it approved the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2009, and requested the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence. In addition, the Assembly reaffirmed that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories were an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and called upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate United Nations visiting missions to the Territories. The Assembly also called upon all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in the Committee's future sessions.

3. In addition to resolution 64/106, the General Assembly adopted 10 other resolutions and a decision relating to specific items considered by the Special Committee in 2009, which are listed below.

1. Resolutions and decision concerning specific Territories

Resolutions

Territory	*Resolution number*	*Date of adoption*
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	58/316[a]	1 July 2004
Western Sahara	64/101	10 December 2009
New Caledonia	64/102	10 December 2009
Tokelau	64/103	10 December 2009
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands	64/104 A and B	10 December 2009

[a] In accordance with paragraph 4 (b) of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the item should remain on the agenda for consideration upon notification by a Member State.

Decision

Territory/Title	*Decision number*	*Date of adoption*
Gibraltar	64/521	10 December 2009

2. Resolutions concerning other items

Title	*Resolution number*	*Date of adoption*
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations	64/97	10 December 2009
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories	64/98	10 December 2009
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	64/99	10 December 2009
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	64/100	10 December 2009
Dissemination of information on decolonization	64/105	10 December 2009

3. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

4. Other resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session that were relevant to the work of and were taken into consideration by the Special Committee are listed in a note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/2010/L.1).

4. Membership of the Special Committee

5. As at 1 January 2010, the Special Committee was composed of the following 28 members: Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Papua New Guinea, the Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, the Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

6. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, the Chair drew the Committee's attention to documents A/AC.109/2010/1, which contained a letter from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations, and A/AC.109/2010/L.3, which contained a draft decision on an increase in the membership of the Special Committee submitted by the Chair.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/AC.109/2010/L.3 without a vote.

8. At its 82nd plenary meeting, on 15 April 2010, the General Assembly adopted decision 64/419, by which it increased the membership of the Special Committee to 29 and appointed Nicaragua as a member of the Committee.

9. A list of representatives who attended the meetings of the Special Committee in 2010 appears in document A/AC.109/2010/INF/1.

B. Opening of the meetings of the Special Committee in 2010 and election of officers

10. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs addressed the Special Committee at its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010. At the same meeting, the Chair made a statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Dominica, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Indonesia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Congo, Ecuador, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Grenada, Tunisia and the Russian Federation (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.1).

11. At the same meeting, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chair:
Donatus Keith St. Aimee (Saint Lucia)

Vice-Chairs:
Pedro Núñez Mosquera (Cuba)
Rupert S. D. Davies (Sierra Leone)

Rapporteur:
Bashar Ja'afari (Syrian Arab Republic)

C. Organization of work

12. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Bureau as the only subsidiary body of the Committee. The Special Committee also decided to adopt the suggestions of the Chair relating to the allocation of items and the procedure for their consideration (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2). Also at the same meeting, the Chair made a statement relating to the organization of work (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.1).

13. Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Uruguay participated in the 2010 session of the Special Committee as observers.

D. Meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies

14. In keeping with its resolve to continue taking all possible measures to rationalize the organization of its work, and with the full and close cooperation of its entire membership, the Special Committee and its subsidiary body were again able to keep to a minimum the number of their formal meetings, as indicated below, by holding, whenever possible, informal meetings and extensive consultations through officers of the Special Committee.

1. Special Committee

15. The Special Committee held 10 meetings at Headquarters during 2010, as follows:

(a) First part of the session: 1st meeting, 25 February; 2nd meeting, 18 March; and 3rd meeting, 30 March.

(b) Second part of the session: 4th meeting, 15 June; 5th and 6th meetings, 21 June; 7th meeting, 22 June; 8th meeting, 23 June; 9th meeting, 24 June; and 10th meeting, 25 June.

16. During the session, the Special Committee considered in plenary meetings the following questions and adopted decisions thereon, as indicated below:

Question	*Meeting*	*Decision*
Dissemination of information on decolonization	4th	Chap. XII, draft resolution VII
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations	4th	Chap. XII, draft resolution I
Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories	4th and 10th	Chap. IV, para. 94
Gibraltar	4th	Chap. VIII, para. 117
Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico	5th, 6th	Chap. I, para. 26
Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands	7th	Chap. XII, draft resolution VI
Question of Tokelau	10th	Chap. XII, draft resolution V
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	9th	Chap. XI, para. 144
Question of New Caledonia	7th and 10th	Chap. XII, draft resolution IV
Western Sahara	7th	Chap. VIII, para. 128
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	8th	Chap. XII, draft resolution III

Question	*Meeting*	*Decision*
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories	8th	Chap. XII, draft resolution II
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	8th and 10th	Chap. XII, draft resolution VIII

2. Subsidiary bodies

Bureau

17. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), the Special Committee decided to maintain its Bureau as the only subsidiary body of the Committee. During the period covered by the present report, the Bureau held three meetings.

18. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, following a statement by the Chair, the Special Committee adopted a report concerning organizational matters related to its work (A/AC.109/2010/L.14), without a vote.

E. Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable

19. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), the Special Committee decided to take up as appropriate the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable.

20. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June, the Special Committee decided to continue its consideration of the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its sixty-fifth session (see A/AC.109/2010/L.14, para. 9).

Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico

21. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), the Special Committee decided to take up as appropriate the item entitled "Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico" and to consider it at plenary meetings.

22. At the 4th and 5th meetings, on 15 and 21 June, the Chair drew attention to a number of communications received from organizations expressing a wish to be heard on Puerto Rico by the Special Committee. The Special Committee agreed to accede to those requests, and heard the representatives of the organizations concerned at its 5th and 6th meetings (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.5 and 6), as follows:

(a) *5th meeting*: Arturo L. Hernández González, Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico; Iván A. Rivera Reyes, PROELA; Manuel Rivera, Puertorriqueños

Unidos en Acción; Omar López, Alianza pro Libre Asociación Soberana; Nilda Luz Rexach, National Advancement for Puerto Rican Culture; Jose Adames, Puerto Rican Cultural and Literary Organization; Fernando J. Martin, Puerto Rican Independence Party; Héctor Pesquera Sevillana, Comisión Internacional, Movimiento Independista Nacional Hostosiano; Wilma Reverón Collazo, Comité de Puerto Rico en la ONU; Eduardo Villanueva Muñoz, Comité pro Derechos Humanos de Puerto Rico; Jan Susler, International Committee, National Lawyers Guild; Manuel Laguarda, Partido Socialista del Uruguay; Aleida Centeno, American Association of Jurists; Ruben Giustiniani, Partido Socialista de Argentina; Martín Torríjos, Comité de la Internacional Socialista para América Latina y el Caribe; Richard López, Frente Patriótico Arecibeño; and Paula Santiago, Partido Nacionalista de Puerto Rico: Movimiento Libertador;

(b) *6th meeting*: Carmen Gonzalez Arias, Coalición Puertorriqueña contra la Pena de Muerte; Normita Aponte Rivera, Comité Familiares y Amigos Avelino González Claudio; Benjamín Ramos Rosado, ProLibertad Freedom Campaign; Ismael Guadalupe Ortiz, Movimiento de Afirmación Viequense; Luis Vega Ramos, Frente Autonomista; Francisco Velgara, Frente Socialista de Puerto Rico; Martin Koppel, Socialist Workers Party; Manuel Rodríguez Banchs, Movimiento al Socialismo; José Luis Concepción, Movimiento Patriótico Canario; Aura Colón Solá, Juventud Hostosiana; Jorge L. Limeres, Comité pro Independencia de Puerto Rico de Connecticut; Angel Collado Schwartz, Instituto Soberanista de Puerto Rico; and Rogelio Figueroa Garcia, Puerto Ricans for Puerto Rico.

23. At the 5th meeting, on 21 June, the representative of Cuba, on behalf also of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.8 (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.5).

24. At the 6th meeting, also on 21 June, following statements by the representatives of Egypt (on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicaragua, Ecuador, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.8 without a vote (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.6).

25. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba made a statement (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.6).

26. Draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.8 read as follows:

Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico

The Special Committee,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico,

Considering that the period 1990-2000 was proclaimed by the General Assembly, in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and that by resolution 55/146 of 8 December

2000, the Assembly declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Bearing in mind the twenty-eight resolutions and decisions adopted by the Special Committee on the question of Puerto Rico, contained in the reports of the Special Committee to the General Assembly, in particular those adopted without a vote in recent years,

Recalling that 25 July 2010 marks the one hundred and twelfth anniversary of the intervention in Puerto Rico by the United States of America,

Noting with concern that despite the diverse initiatives taken by the political representatives of Puerto Rico and the United States in recent years, the process of decolonization of Puerto Rico, in compliance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee on Puerto Rico, has not yet been set in motion,

Stressing the urgent need for the United States to lay the groundwork for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico,

Noting that the inter-agency Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status designated by the President of the United States, which submitted its second report in December 2007, reaffirmed that Puerto Rico is a territory subject to United States congressional authority and that initiatives concerning Puerto Rico's status have been subsequently presented to the Congress of the United States,

Also noting the "Panama Proclamation", adopted by the Latin American and Caribbean Congress in solidarity with Puerto Rico's Independence, which was held in Panama on 18 and 19 November 2006 and was attended by 33 political parties from 22 countries of the region, the conclusions of which were reaffirmed in Mexico City on 29 March 2008 at the meeting of the Standing Committee for Puerto Rican Independence, and the declaration of the Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean of Socialist International, adopted at its meeting in Buenos Aires in April 2010, supporting a review of the case of Puerto Rico by the General Assembly,

Further noting the debate in Puerto Rico on the search for a procedure that would make it possible to launch the process of decolonization of Puerto Rico, and aware of the principle that any initiative for the solution of the political status of Puerto Rico should originate from the people of Puerto Rico,

Aware that Vieques Island, Puerto Rico, was used for over 60 years by the United States Marines to carry out military exercises, with negative consequences for the health of the population, the environment and the economic and social development of that Puerto Rican municipality,

Noting the consensus existing among the people and the Government of Puerto Rico on the necessity of ensuring the clean-up, decontamination and return to the people of Puerto Rico of all the territory previously used for military exercises and installations, and of using them for the social and economic development of Puerto Rico,

Also noting the complaints made by the inhabitants of Vieques Island regarding the continued bombing and the use of open burning for clean-up, which exacerbate the existing health problems and pollution and endanger civilian lives,

Further noting the consensus among the people of Puerto Rico in favour of the release of the Puerto Rican political prisoners, some of whom have been serving sentences in prisons in the United States of America for more than twenty-nine years for cases related to the struggle for Puerto Rico's independence,

Noting the concern of the people of Puerto Rico regarding violent actions, including repression and intimidation, against Puerto Rican independence fighters, including those that have recently come to light through documents declassified by federal agencies of the United States,

Also noting that in the final document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (A/63/965-S/2009/514), held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, and at other meetings of the Movement, the right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence is reaffirmed on the basis of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), the Government of the United States is urged to assume its responsibility to expedite a process that will allow the Puerto Rican people to fully exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence and to return the territory and occupied installations on Vieques Island and at the Roosevelt Roads Naval Station to the Puerto Rican people, who constitute a Latin American and Caribbean nation, and the General Assembly is urged to actively consider the question of Puerto Rico in all its aspects,

Having heard statements and testimonies representative of various viewpoints among the people of Puerto Rico and their social institutions,

Having considered the report of the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the implementation of the resolutions concerning Puerto Rico (A/AC.109/2010/L.4),

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the applicability of the fundamental principles of that resolution to the question of Puerto Rico;

2. *Reiterates* that the Puerto Rican people constitute a Latin American and Caribbean nation that has its own unequivocal national identity;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the United States of America to assume its responsibility to expedite a process that will allow the Puerto Rican people fully to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance and in full compliance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the resolutions and decisions of the Special Committee concerning Puerto Rico;

4. *Notes* the broad support of eminent persons, Governments and political forces in Latin America and the Caribbean for the independence of Puerto Rico;

5. *Again notes* the debate in Puerto Rico on the implementation of a mechanism that would ensure the full participation of representatives of all viewpoints prevailing in Puerto Rico, including a constitutional assembly on status with a basis in the decolonization alternatives recognized in international law, and aware of the principle that any initiative for the solution of the political status of Puerto Rico should originate from the people of Puerto Rico;

6. *Expresses serious concern* regarding actions carried out against Puerto Rican independence fighters, and encourages the investigation of those actions with the necessary rigour and with the cooperation of the relevant authorities;

7. *Requests* the General Assembly to consider the question of Puerto Rico comprehensively in all its aspects;

8. *Urges* the Government of the United States, in line with the need to guarantee the Puerto Rican people their legitimate right to self-determination and the protection of their human rights, to complete the return of occupied land and installations on Vieques Island and in Ceiba to the people of Puerto Rico, respect fundamental human rights, such as the right to health and economic development, and expedite and cover the costs of the process of cleaning up and decontaminating the impact areas previously used in military exercises through means that do not continue to aggravate the serious consequences of its military activity for the health of the inhabitants of Vieques Island and the environment;

9. *Requests* the President of the United States of America to release Oscar López Rivera and Carlos Alberto Torres, who have been serving sentences in United States prisons for over twenty-nine years, and Avelino González Claudio, all of whom are Puerto Rican political prisoners serving sentences in United States prisons for cases relating to the struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico;

10. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report prepared by the Rapporteur of the Special Committee, in compliance with its resolution of 9 June 2008;

11. *Requests* the Rapporteur to report to the Special Committee in 2010 on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to keep the question of Puerto Rico under continuous review.

F. Consideration of other matters

27. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), the Special Committee decided to consider in plenary meetings the questions of compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization, holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters, the pattern of conferences and other questions mentioned in paragraphs 28 to 41 below.

1. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other resolutions on decolonization

28. The Special Committee took into account in its consideration of specific items, the decision mentioned in paragraph 27 above.

2. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

29. Having regard to its programme of work for 2010, the Special Committee, at its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, considered the question of holding meetings away from Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV), by which the Assembly authorized the Special Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might

be required for the effective discharge of its functions. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided that it would consider accepting such invitations as might be received in 2011 and that, when particulars of such meetings had become known, it would request the Secretary-General to seek the necessary budgetary provision in accordance with established procedures.

3. Pattern of conferences

30. Recalling measures it had taken previously, the Special Committee decided to continue to exercise its initiatives in the effective utilization of the limited conference resources and the further reduction of its documentation requirements by circulating communications and information material, as far as possible, in the form of informal notes and aides-memoires in the original language of submission, thus curtailing documentation requirements and accruing considerable savings for the Organization. A list of the documents issued by the Special Committee in 2010 is contained in annex I to the present report.

31. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Special Committee considered the item and noted that, during the year, it had closely followed the guidelines set forth in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the pattern of conferences, in particular resolution 64/230. By organizing its programme of work effectively and holding extensive consultations, the Committee had striven to keep the number of its formal meetings to a minimum. The Special Committee decided, taking into account its probable workload for 2011, to consider holding its meetings in accordance with the following schedule: (a) plenary: February/March (as required); June/July (up to 30 meetings: 6-8 meetings a week); (b) Bureau (February-July: 20 meetings). It was understood that the programme would not preclude the holding of any ad hoc meetings that might be warranted and that the Special Committee might, in early 2011, review the schedule of meetings on the basis of any new developments. The Special Committee decided, subject to any directives given by the General Assembly, to strive, while fulfilling its mandate, to keep its meetings to a minimum.

4. Control and limitation of documentation

32. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Special Committee noted that, during the year, it had taken further measures to control and limit its documentation in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 34/50, 39/68, 51/211 B and 64/230. The Special Committee, consistent with the goal of limiting documentation, decided to continue to streamline its report to the Assembly.

5. Cooperation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

33. In compliance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the delegations of France and New Zealand, as administering Powers, continued to participate, in accordance with established procedure, in the related work of the Special Committee (see chaps. VIII.B and X).

34. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America did not formally participate in the work of the Special Committee.[1]

35. In a related context, the Special Committee, at its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, adopted a resolution on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories. It called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by facilitating United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization (see para. 95 below).

6. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee

36. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Special Committee considered the question of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work and decided to recommend that the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee at Headquarters should continue to be facilitated through the reimbursement by the United Nations of the expenses relating to their participation under the terms of the guidelines amended by the Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

7. Representation at seminars, meetings and conferences of intergovernmental and other organizations

37. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Special Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Committee continue to be represented at seminars, meetings and conferences organized by United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. In keeping with its decision of 25 February 2010 (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.1) the Committee would authorize its Chair to hold consultations, as appropriate, concerning its participation in those meetings, as well as the level of representation, when accepting invitations. In accordance with established practice and on the basis of the principle of rotation, the Chair would hold consultations with the Bureau members, who, in turn, would consult with the members of the Committee from their respective regional groups. The Chair would also hold consultations with a member of the Committee whose regional group was not represented in the Bureau. The Special Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly make appropriate budgetary provisions to cover such activities in 2011.

8. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories

38. The question of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories was considered by the Special Committee at its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, in connection with its consideration of the report of the Pacific regional seminar (see chap. II and annex II).

[1] For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86 and A/41/23, chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

9. Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

39. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), and in accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly and based on practice initiated by the Committee in 2005, the Committee decided to continue to formulate its decisions in General Assembly form and to submit them to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

40. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Special Committee, on the proposal of the Chair, authorized the Rapporteur to submit directly to the Assembly report of the Committee in accordance with established practice and procedure.

10. Other questions

41. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chair (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), the Special Committee decided, in its examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions and a decision listed in the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (see para. 3 above). These resolutions and decision were taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items in plenary meetings.

G. Relations with United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

42. In connection with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 64/99 relating to the item, consultations were held between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chair of the Special Committee to consider appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (see E/2010/54 and Add.1). An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the question is set out in chapter VI of the present report.

43. During the year, the Special Committee adopted decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Those decisions are reflected in recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII).

44. The Special Committee took into account the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council at its tenth session and continued to follow the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

45. Bearing in mind its previous decisions to maintain contact with the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the African Union, the Caribbean Community and the Pacific Islands Forum on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of its mandate, the Special Committee, as in previous years, closely followed the work of those intergovernmental organizations.

46. Having regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 64/105 and 64/106, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization (see A/AC.109/2010/19 and para. 22 above). The related decisions of the Special Committee are listed in chapter XII of the present report.

47. The Special Committee continued to monitor related developments in the Territories, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex).

H. Review of work

48. The reform processes initiated by the Special Committee in 1991 continued to be actively pursued in 2010. The Special Committee's recommendation to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on 12 Territories was consolidated into two resolutions (see chap. XII, draft resolutions V and VI).

49. The Special Committee also considered and submitted recommendations on information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations, the question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories, implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

50. As noted in chapter II of the present report, the Special Committee held a Pacific regional seminar in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010, at which participants assessed the decolonization process in today's world.

51. On the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee adopted a resolution on the dissemination of information on decolonization, which it recommended to the General Assembly for action at its sixty-fifth session (see chap. XII, draft resolution VII).

52. The Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. With regard to its decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico, the Special Committee heard a number of representatives of organizations concerned and adopted a resolution on the matter, which is set out in paragraph 26 above.

53. The Special Committee also adopted a resolution on the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which it recommended to the General Assembly for action at its sixty-fifth session (see chap. XII, draft resolution IX). The Committee also recommended to the Assembly a decision to hold a meeting to commemorate the occasion on 14 December 2010 (see para. 81 below).

54. The Committee also considered it important to recommend to the General Assembly that it proclaim 2011-2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and that it adopt a resolution in that regard (see chap. XII, draft resolution X).

I. Future work

55. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly since 1961 and subject to further directives from the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, the Special Committee intends to continue during 2011 to pursue its efforts in bringing a speedy end to colonialism, in accordance with Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the revised plan of action to be developed within the context of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

56. In order to discharge its responsibilities, the Special Committee will keep the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under continuous review, examining the impact of developments concerning each Territory on their political advancement, reviewing the compliance by Member States, particularly the administering Powers, with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations, seeking the input of representatives of the Territories, non-governmental organizations from the Territories and experts, inviting them to attend its meetings and regional seminars, and visiting the Territories to gather first-hand information.

57. In 2011 the Special Committee intends to continue and intensify its dialogue and cooperation with the administering Powers for the purpose of furthering the cause of decolonization through the development of case-by-case programmes of work for the decolonization of specific Territories in agreement with the administering Powers and with the participation of representatives of the Territories at every stage of discussion. The members of the Special Committee are particularly encouraged by the excellent cooperation between France and New Caledonia and New Zealand and Tokelau at every stage of the negotiations.

58. The Special Committee will continue to conduct regional seminars, for the purpose of assessing, receiving and disseminating information on the situation in the Territories, in order to facilitate the implementation of its mandate. In this connection, the Special Committee will hold a seminar in the Caribbean region in 2011.

59. The Special Committee will continue to seek the cooperation of the administering Powers in facilitating United Nations visiting and special missions to the Territories under their administration. The Special Committee continues to attach the utmost importance to visiting missions as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples concerning their future status. Moreover, visiting missions are important in the context of action plans for decolonization and observing acts of self-determination. The Special Committee will explore the possibility of combining visiting missions to certain Territories with regional seminars in order to optimize its available resources.

60. The Special Committee will continue to use opportunities such as the regional seminars and visiting and special missions to disseminate information on its activities and on the Territories in an effort to mobilize world public opinion to support and assist the people of the Territories in bringing about a speedy end to colonialism, and to develop, together with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, programmes aimed at Territories that have requested information about self-determination options.

61. The Special Committee will continue to pay attention to the specific problems of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee is aware that, in addition to general problems facing developing countries, those Territories also suffer handicaps arising from the interplay of such factors as size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragility of ecosystems, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources and vulnerability to drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal activities, as well as from the current financial crisis. The Special Committee will continue to recommend measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of those Territories and increased assistance in the development of all the sectors of their economies.

62. It is the intention of the Special Committee to continue to follow closely the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international and regional institutions associated with the United Nations. The Special Committee will continue the practice of holding consultations between its Chair and the President of the Economic and Social Council with the objective to facilitate the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies and to foster cooperation between the specialized agencies and the regional organizations in providing assistance for the Non-Self-Governing Territories in a given region.

63. The Special Committee will also strive to follow up on the General Assembly's request that the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations be facilitated so that the Territories can benefit from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system.

64. The Special Committee intends to take into account economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue its cooperation with interested States to ensure that the interests of the peoples of those Territories are protected.

65. In the light of the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years as well as its probable workload for 2011, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 2011, which it commends to the Assembly for approval.

66. The Special Committee suggests that, when the General Assembly, at its sixty-fifth session, examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration, it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Special Committee that are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section in order to enable the Special Committee to carry out the tasks it envisages for 2011. The Special Committee recommends that the Assembly renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories concerned. In that connection, the Special Committee recommends that the Assembly request those administering Powers that have not yet done so to become involved with the work of the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in the work relating to the

Territories under their respective administrations. The Special Committee also recommends that the Assembly continue to invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussions in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and the Special Committee on the items relating to their respective Territories. Furthermore, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly in their relevant resolutions.

67. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly make adequate provision to cover the activities that the Special Committee envisages for 2011. In that regard, the Special Committee notes that the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 includes resources to provide for the programme of work of the Special Committee for 2011, based on the level of activities approved for 2010, without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session. On that basis, the Special Committee understands that, should any additional provisions be required over and above those included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, proposals for supplementary requirements would be made to the General Assembly for its approval. Finally, the Special Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various tasks assigned to it by the Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

J. Conclusion of the 2010 session

68. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010, the Chair made a statement on the occasion of the closing of the 2010 session of the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

Chapter II

Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

69. At its 1st meeting, on 25 February 2010, the Special Committee, by approving the recommendations of its Chair on the organization of work of the Special Committee for the year (see A/AC.109/2010/L.2), decided to allocate to plenary meetings of the Special Committee, as appropriate, the question of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

70. The Special Committee considered the questions of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Pacific regional seminar to assess the decolonization process in today's world at its 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 10th meetings, on 25 February, 18 and 30 March and 25 June.

71. The Special Committee had before it guidelines and rules of procedure for the Pacific regional seminar (A/AC.109/2010/18).

72. At its 3rd meeting, on 30 March, following a statement by the Chair, the Special Committee approved the composition of the official delegation of the Special Committee to the Pacific regional seminar (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.3).

73. At its 10th meeting, on 25 June, the Chair of the Special Committee drew attention to the draft report of the Pacific regional seminar, which had been circulated to members of the Special Committee as an informal document (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

74. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report of the Pacific regional seminar and decided to include it as an annex to its report to the General Assembly (see annex II).

75. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.11, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", submitted by the Chair.

76. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.11 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VIII).

77. Also at its 10th meeting, the Special Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.17 entitled "Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", submitted by the Chair.

78. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.17 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution IX).

79. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.18 entitled "Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", submitted by the Chair.

80. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.18 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution X).

81. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted, without a vote, draft decision A/AC.109/2010/L.19 entitled "Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" and recommended to the General Assembly that the Assembly adopt a decision to hold a commemorative meeting on 14 December 2010 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Committee authorized its Rapporteur to submit the draft decision directly to the Assembly (see document A/64/23/Add.1).

Chapter III
Dissemination of information on decolonization

82. The Special Committee considered the question of dissemination of information on decolonization at its 4th meeting, on 15 June 2010.

83. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 64/105 on the dissemination of information on decolonization and resolution 64/106 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

84. The Special Committee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat at its 4th meeting (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.4).

85. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Special Committee drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/2010/19) and a draft resolution on the item submitted by the Chair (A/AC.109/2010/L.6).

86. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.6, without a vote.

87. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.6 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VII).

Chapter IV
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories

88. The Special Committee considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories at its 4th and 10th meetings, on 15 and 25 June 2010.

89. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, the pertinent provisions of resolution 64/106 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolutions 64/104 A and B and 64/103 relating to specific Territories.

90. In addition, the Special Committee considered the specific Territories referred to it, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 64/105 and 64/106, as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the question.

91. At the 4th meeting, on 15 June, the Chair drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2010/L.7) (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.4). At the same meeting, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the item to a later date.

92. At the 10th meeting, on 25 June, the Chair introduced an oral revision to draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.7 by which the last preambular paragraph would be replaced by the following:

> "*Recalling* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Governments of American Samoa and of Anguilla for a visiting mission by the Special Committee,"

93. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.7, as orally revised, without a vote.

94. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.7 read as follows:

> **Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories**
>
> *The Special Committee*,
>
> *Having considered* the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,
>
> *Recalling* the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,
>
> *Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,
>
> *Conscious* that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in other relevant

resolutions of the Assembly and in the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[2]

Recalling with satisfaction the dispatch of two United Nations missions to observe the referendums in Tokelau, in February 2006 and October 2007, at the invitation of New Zealand as the administering Power,[3]

Recalling with satisfaction also the cooperation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in facilitating the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in April 2006[4] at the request of the territorial Government,

Recalling the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Governments of American Samoa and of Anguilla for a visiting mission by the Special Committee,

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;[2]

2. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not yet done so to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by facilitating United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in exploring the possibility of undertaking visiting or special missions in furtherance of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* its Chair to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned and to report thereon to the Special Committee on the results of those consultations.

95. By adopting at its 7th meeting, on 22 June, a consolidated resolution on 11 small Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2010/L.10) and at its 10th meeting, on 25 June, a resolution on Tokelau (A/AC.109/2010/L.16), the Special Committee endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting and special missions to Territories, as reflected in its recommendations to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolutions V and VI).

[2] A/56/61, annex.

[3] See A/AC.109/2006/20 and A/AC.109/2007/19.

[4] See A/AC.109/2007/5.

Chapter V

Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

96. The Special Committee considered the question of economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at its 8th meeting, on 23 June 2010.

97. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolution 64/98 on economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and resolution 64/106 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Additionally, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the last preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.13.

98. Also at the 8th meeting, the Chair drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2010/L.13) (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.8).

99. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.13, without a vote.

100. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.13 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution II).

Chapter VI

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

101. The Special Committee considered the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations at its 8th meeting, on 23 June 2010.

102. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 64/99 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, in paragraph 24 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session. The Special Committee also took into account all other resolutions adopted by the Assembly on the subject, including resolution 55/146 declaring the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the reports of the Secretary-General on the Second Decade (A/56/61, A/60/71 and Add.1 and A/64/70).

103. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fifth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.12.

104. Also at the 8th meeting, the Chair drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/65/61 and Corr.1) and to the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration (see E/2010/54 and Add.1), as well as to the draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2010/L.12).

105. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.12, without a vote.

106. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.12 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution III).

Chapter VII

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

107. The Special Committee considered the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations at its 3rd meeting, on 15 June 2010.

108. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII), by which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and resolution 64/97, in paragraph 4 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures. Furthermore, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 64/106 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolution 55/146 relating to the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

109. At the 4th meeting, on 15 June 2010, the Chair drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/65/66), which reflected the dates of transmission of information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations by the administering Powers in regard to Territories under their respective administration, as well as to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2010/L.5).

110. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.5, without a vote.

111. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.5 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution I).

Chapter VIII
Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara

112. In its consideration of the questions of Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly resolutions 64/101 and 64/102 and decision 64/521, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

A. Gibraltar

113. The Special Committee considered the question of Gibraltar at its 4th meeting, on 15 June 2010.

114. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2010/16).

115. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.4).

116. Also at the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the outset of the meeting, a statement was made by Joseph Bossano, Leader of the Opposition in Gibraltar (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.4).

117. On the proposal of the Chair, the Special Committee decided to continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its sixty-fifth session, and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

B. New Caledonia

118. The Special Committee considered the question of New Caledonia at its 7th meeting, on 22 June 2010.

119. At the 7th meeting, the Chair drew attention to the working paper on the item A/AC.109/2010/17.

120. At the same meeting, in accordance with the decision taken at its 4th meeting, a statement was made by Caroline Machorro, representative of the Political Bureau of the Front de libération national kanak socialiste.

121. At the 10th meeting, on 25 June, the representative of Fiji, on behalf also of Papua New Guinea, introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.9.

122. At the same meeting, following the statement by the representative of Papua New Guinea, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.9, without a vote.

123. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.9 appears in the present report in the form of the recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution IV).

C. Western Sahara

124. The Special Committee considered the question of Western Sahara at its 7th meeting, on 22 June 2010.

125. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2010/11).

126. At its 7th meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the 4th meeting, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ahmed Boukhari of the Frente Polisario, who made a statement (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.7).

127. At the same meeting, the representatives of Cuba, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Nicaragua and Chile made statements (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.7).

128. Also at the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chair, the Special Committee decided, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give at its sixty-fifth session, and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

Chapter IX

American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

129. The Special Committee considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands at its 10th meeting, on 22 June 2010.

130. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 64/106 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions and decisions on the Territories adopted by the Assembly.

131. The delegations of the United Kingdom and the United States, the administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration.

132. During its consideration of the items, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/2010/2, 4-10 and 12-14).

133. At the 8th meeting, on 23 June, in accordance with the decision taken at the 4th meeting, statements were made by Hope Antoinette Cristobal, Rima Miles, Julie Gilgoff, Tressa Diaz and Andrea Santos on the question of Guam, and by Benjamin Roberts and Wendal Swann on the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.8).

134. At the 10th meeting, on 25 June, the Chair made a statement introducing a consolidated draft resolution (A/AC.109/2010/L.10) relating to the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

135. At the same meeting, the Chair introduced the oral revisions to draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.10, as follows:

(a) Section VII, Montserrat

(i) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "proceeded during 2008" were replaced with the words "is ongoing".

(ii) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the word "May" was inserted before "2010"; the words "intended to continue" were replaced by the word "continued"; the words "so as to modernize the Territory's relationship" were deleted; and the words "to seek agreement on outstanding issues before the end of the year" were replaced with the words "a draft agreed between the two parties was published for public consultation".

(iii) Operative paragraph 1 was replaced with the following:

"1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory and welcomes the public consultation being undertaken;".

(b) Section VIII, Pitcairn

(i) In the third preambular paragraph, the words "was introduced" were replaced with the words "came into force"; the words "in March 2010" were inserted after the word "Territory"; and the word "updates" was replaced with the word "replaces".

(ii) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "are in the process of implementing" were replaced with the words "have implemented".

(iii) In operative paragraph 1, the word "introduction" was replaced with the words "coming into force"; the words "in March 2010" were inserted after the word "Territory"; and the words "a new constitutional framework and" were inserted before the words "human rights provisions".

(c) Section X, Turks and Caicos Islands

(i) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "financial and" were deleted; the word "crisis" was replaced with the word "slowdown"; and the word "relevant" was inserted before the word "developments".

(ii) Operative paragraph 1 was replaced with the following:

"1. *Calls* for the restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through an elected territorial Government as soon as possible;".

(iii) Operative paragraph 4 was replaced with the following:

"4. *Stresses* the importance of putting in place for the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the work of the Constitutional Commission, the Turks and Caicos Forum, and other mechanisms for popular consultation;".

(iv) A new operative paragraph 6 was added after operative paragraph 5 to read:

"6. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socio-economic development across the Territory;".

136. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.10, as orally revised, without a vote.

137. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.10, as orally revised, appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution VI).

Chapter X
Tokelau

138. The Special Committee considered the question of Tokelau at its 10th meeting, on 25 June 2010.

139. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2010/3).

140. At the 10th meeting, on 25 June, with the consent of the Special Committee, the Ulu-o-Tokelau and the Administrator of Tokelau made statements (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

141. At the same meeting, the representative of Papua New Guinea, on behalf also of Fiji, introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.16 (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

142. Also at the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of Fiji, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.16, without a vote.

143. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.16 appears in the present report in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly (see chap. XII, draft resolution V).

Chapter XI
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

144. The Special Committee considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 24 and 25 June 2010.

145. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account paragraph 4 (b) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

146. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2010/15).

147. At the 9th meeting, the Chair informed the Special Committee that the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay had requested to participate in the Committee's consideration of the item. The Committee decided to accede to the requests.

148. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at its 4th meeting, statements were made by The Honourable Emma Edwards and Gavin Short of the Legislative Assembly of the Falkland Islands, Guillermo Raimundo Clifton, Alejandro Betts and Nelson Daniel Gleadell (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.9).

149. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Chile, on behalf also of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2010/L.15).

150. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina made a statement (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.9).

151. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of China, Cuba, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Mali, Tunisia, Uruguay (on behalf of the Common Market of the South and associated countries), Mexico (as host country of the first Latin America and Caribbean Unity Summit), Brazil and Guatemala (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.9).

152. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.15, without a vote.

153. At the 10th meeting, on 25 June, statements were made by the representatives of Paraguay, Peru, El Salvador and Papua New Guinea (see A/AC.109/2010/SR.10).

154. The text of draft resolution A/AC.109/2010/L.15 read as follows:

Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Aware that the maintenance of colonial situations is incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 31/49 of 1 December 1976, 37/9 of 4 November 1982, 38/12 of 16 November 1983, 39/6 of 1 November 1984, 40/21 of 27 November 1985, 41/40 of 25 November 1986, 42/19 of 17 November 1987 and 43/25 of 17 November 1988, Special Committee resolutions A/AC.109/756 of 1 September 1983, A/AC.109/793 of 21 August 1984, A/AC.109/842 of 9 August 1985, A/AC.109/885 of 14 August 1986, A/AC.109/930 of 14 August 1987, A/AC.109/972 of 11 August 1988, A/AC.109/1008 of 15 August 1989, A/AC.109/1050 of 14 August 1990, A/AC.109/1087 of 14 August 1991, A/AC.109/1132 of 29 July 1992, A/AC.109/1169 of 14 July 1993, A/AC.109/2003 of 12 July 1994, A/AC.109/2033 of 13 July 1995, A/AC.109/2062 of 22 July 1996, A/AC.109/2096 of 16 June 1997, A/AC.109/2122 of 6 July 1998, A/AC.109/1999/23 of 1 July 1999, A/AC.109/2000/23 of 11 July 2000, A/AC.109/2001/25 of 29 June 2001, A/AC.109/2002/25 of 19 June 2002, A/AC.109/2003/24 of 16 June 2003, the resolution adopted on 18 June 2004, the resolution adopted on 15 June 2005, the resolution adopted on 15 June 2006, the resolution adopted on 21 June 2007, the resolution adopted on 12 June 2008 and the resolution adopted on 18 June 2009, and Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

Distressed that, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), this prolonged dispute has not yet been settled,

Aware of the interest of the international community in the resumption by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of their negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Expressing its preoccupation over the fact that the good level of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom has not yet led to negotiations on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Considering that this situation should facilitate the resumption of the negotiations in order to find a peaceful solution to the dispute over sovereignty,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

Calling attention to the importance of the Secretary-General continuing his efforts to give full effect to the mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Reaffirming the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

1. *Reiterates* that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed by the President of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Regrets* that, in spite of the widespread international support for a negotiation between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom that includes all aspects of the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on this question has not yet started;

4. *Requests* the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25;

5. *Reiterates* its firm support for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in order to assist the parties in complying with the request made by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas);

6. *Decides* to keep under review the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) subject to the directives that the General Assembly has issued and may issue in that regard.

Chapter XII
Recommendations

155. The Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 64/97 of 10 December 2009, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

[5] A/65/66.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

Draft resolution II
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[6]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. V.

accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples

of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution III
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General[7] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[8] on the item,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[9]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/33 of 31 July 2009,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Also welcoming the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

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[7] A/65/61 and Corr.1.

[8] E/2010/54 and Add.1.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. VI.

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 64/99 of 10 December 2009 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other

organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including possible participation at the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(a) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(c) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(d) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[10] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of

[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G.

the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution IV
Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[11]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. VIII, sect. B.

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord on 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[12]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009 and the conduct of provincial elections in May 2009;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 26 June 2008 by the Government of New Caledonia of a draft country law (*loi du pays*) on the identity symbols to be adopted by the country in implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the acceptance, on 21 October 2008, of the draft law on the anthem, motto and banknote design;

4. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

6. *Also notes* the concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

7. *Takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

8. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

9. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

10. *Notes* the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services;

[12] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

12. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

13. *Recalls with satisfaction* the efforts of the French authorities to resolve the question of voter registration by adopting, in the French Congress of Parliament, on 19 February 2007, amendments to the French Constitution allowing New Caledonia to restrict eligibility to vote in local polls to those voters registered on the 1998 electoral rolls when the Nouméa Accord was signed, thus ensuring strong representation of the Kanak population;

14. *Welcomes* all measures taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

15. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

16. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in areas such as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

17. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

18. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

19. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania Summits in July 2003 and June 2006;

20. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

21. *Recalls with satisfaction*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the 40th summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Cairns, Australia, on 5 and 6 August 2009, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006;

22. *Recalls* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

23. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

24. *Recalls* the endorsement of the report of the Forum Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia by leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum at its 36th Summit, held in Papua New Guinea in October 2005, and the continuing role of the Forum Ministerial Committee in monitoring developments in the Territory and encouraging closer regional engagements;

25. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the Pacific regional seminar of the Special Committee, held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010, and expresses its appreciation to the people and Government of New Caledonia for hosting the seminar and to the Government of France for its support in organizing the meeting;

26. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

27. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution V
Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau,[13]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 64/103 of 10 December 2009,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. X.

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a self-determination referendum on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the decision of the General Fono;

4. *Also recalls* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

5. *Further recalls* that two referendums to determine the status of Tokelau, held in February 2006 and October 2007, did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

6. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

8. *Also acknowledges* Tokelau's adoption of its National Strategic Plan for 2010-2015;

9. *Further acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

10. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

11. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

14. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

15. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session.

Draft resolution VI
Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A
General

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[14]

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that fifty years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[15] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[16]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the aegis of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that

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[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. IX.

[15] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[16] A/56/61, annex.

the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Acknowledging the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Noting the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

Mindful that the 2010 Pacific regional seminar was held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[17] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[18] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[19]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the

[17] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[18] A/AC.109/2010/2, 4-10 and 12-14.
[19] A/64/70.

administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[16] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial

Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[17] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

B
Individual Territories

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I. American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[20] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[21]

Noting the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa in regional seminars inviting the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007, and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee in the Territory, as well as the holding in 2010 of American Samoa's fourth constitutional convention,

[20] A/AC.109/2010/12.

[21] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

Noting, in that regard, the statement by the Governor of American Samoa made at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May, and previous policy papers presented to the Special Committee, in which he stated that, while the Territory's status was akin to being self-governing, it was time to forge a more collaborative approach between the Territory and the administering Power,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that the effects of certain federal laws on the Territory's economy are serious cause for concern,

Aware that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government and legislature with regard to the recommendations made by the Future Political Status Study Commission in preparation for American Samoa's fourth constitutional convention, to be held in 2010 to address issues related to the future status of American Samoa, and commends the efforts of the territorial Government to enhance public awareness of the ongoing preparations for submitting constitutional amendments;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning the intention of holding the fourth constitutional convention in 2010, if requested;

3. *Expresses appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2010 to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme recommended by the Future Political Status Study Commission in its 2007 report, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of its economy and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

II. Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[22] and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Recalling also the statement of the representative of Anguilla at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

[22] A/AC.109/2010/9.

Noting the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, and the 2008 decision to set up a drafting team consisting of territorial Government officials, members of the House of Assembly and lawyers to draft a new constitution, as well as the presentation of the draft constitution for public consultation in the Territory in 2009 and the expectation that the draft text will be further discussed with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 2010, with the aim of seeking full internal self-government,

Aware that the Government intends to continue its commitment to high-end tourism and the implementation of various regulations in the financial services sector,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Welcomes* the presentation of a new constitution for public consultation in 2009 with the aim of further discussing the new constitution with the administering Power in 2010;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including fiscal matters;

III. Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[23] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Bermuda at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting a recent survey by local media on the matter,

[23] A/AC.109/2010/6.

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

IV. British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[24] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling also the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council of the Territory, the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission in 2004, the completion in 2005 of its report providing recommendations on internal constitutional modernization and the debate held in 2005 on the report in the Legislative Council, as well as the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which resulted in the adoption of the new Constitution of the Territory in 2007,

Noting the view expressed in the aforementioned statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar, that, building on the conclusion of the recent internal constitutional modernization exercise, the Territory's focus was on economic development prior to any search for independence,

Noting further the impact of the global economic slowdown on the Territory's financial and tourism services sectors,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Recalls* the new Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, which took effect in June 2007, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters;

[24] A/AC.109/2010/2.

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Territory to stimulate, including through small business development, the two major segments of its economic base, namely financial services and tourism;

V. Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[25] and other relevant information,

Noting the statement by the representative of the territorial Government made at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May, which, inter alia, indicated that, as affirmed during the general elections in May 2009, the territorial Government had no mandate from the Territory's people to pursue full political independence,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003, and the reopening of discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional modernization, in 2006, which resulted in the finalization of a new draft constitution in February 2009, its subsequent acceptance by referendum in May 2009, and promulgation in November 2009,

Noting with interest the establishment, under the new Constitution, of a Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that certain economic growth and cost-of-living issues, such as inflation, continue to be cause for concern,

1. *Welcomes* the promulgation of a new Constitution in November 2009, and the appointment of Commissioners of the new Constitutional Commission by the Governor, in consultation with the Premier and Leader of the Opposition;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to address sectorial management policies and cost-of-living issues in various economic sectors;

[25] A/AC.109/2010/5.

VI. Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[26] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[27]

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also the previously expressed requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant of the importance that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of the deep concerns expressed by civil society and others, including at the meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee of the General Assembly in October 2009 and at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010, regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, and encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

[26] A/AC.109/2010/14.

[27] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

2. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

VII. Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[28] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Montserrat at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling also the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report and the subsequent discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional advancement and devolution of power,

Recalling further that the negotiating process with the administering Power on a draft constitution giving greater autonomy to the territorial Government is ongoing, and that, since March 2009, the administering Power has accorded stronger emphasis to the redevelopment of the Territory,

Noting that, in May 2010, the newly elected territorial Government continued the process of negotiating constitutional reforms with the administering Power and draft agreed between the two parties was published for public consultation,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Recalling the statements made by participants at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the Territory's special needs,

Noting with concern the continued consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which

[28] A/AC.109/2010/7.

has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory and welcomes the public consultation being undertaken;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII. Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[29] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Noting that, following consultations in 2009, the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010, including human rights provisions, came into force in the Territory in March 2010, replacing the 1970 Pitcairn Order and 1970 Royal Instructions,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a new governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the coming into force of the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010 in the Territory in March 2010, featuring a new constitutional framework and human rights provisions, and all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expand self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support economic security in Pitcairn;

[29] A/AC.109/2010/4.

IX. Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[30] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Noting the internal constitutional review process led by the territorial Government since 2001, the completion of a draft constitution following negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government in 2003 and 2004, the consultative poll with regard to a new Constitution, held in Saint Helena in May 2005, the subsequent preparation of a revised draft constitution and its publication in June 2008 for further public consultation, and the entry into force of the new Constitution for Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha on 1 September 2009,

Aware that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware also of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

Noting the efforts of the Territory to address the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government in dealing with it,

Noting also the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena, and, in this regard, the administering Power's decision in December 2009 not to proceed with an airport project for the time being, and to conduct further analysis, including options for funding the capital cost of the airport through a public-private partnership,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the entry into force of the Territory's new Constitution in 2009;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socio-economic development challenges, including unemployment, and limited transport and communications infrastructure;

4. *Notes* the decision by the administering Power to carry out further analysis on building an airport in the Territory, and calls upon the administering

[30] A/AC.109/2010/8.

Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena in the process;

X. Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[31] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling also the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Recalling further the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which entered into force in 2006,

Noting the administering Power's decision to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal,

Acknowledging the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the Territory's economy,

Noting with concern the suspension of the elected territorial Government of the Territory,

1. *Calls* for the restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through elected territorial Government as soon as possible;

2. *Notes with concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance and sound financial management in the Territory;

3. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the restoration of democratically elected territorial Government as a matter of urgency;

4. *Stresses* the importance of putting in place for the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the work of the Constitutional Commission, the Turks and Caicos forum and other mechanisms for popular consultation;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

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[31] A/AC.109/2010/10.

6. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socio-economic development across the Territory;

XI. United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[32] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[33]

Aware also of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power for review and action,

Cognizant also of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands fifth constitutional convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories.

[32] A/AC.109/2010/13.

[33] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

Draft resolution VII
Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[34]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 64/105 of 10 December 2009,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[35]

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", which was updated for the United Nations

[34] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. III.

[35] A/56/61, annex.

website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end, requests the Department of Public Information through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VIII
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[36]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 64/106 of 10 December 2009, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010, a second such event in the Non-Self-Governing Territory during the past decade,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23).

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[37]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

[37] Resolution 217 A (III).

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[38]

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[39] represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as

[38] See resolution 54/91.

[39] A/56/61, annex.

appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2010, including the programme of work envisaged for 2011;[36]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

Draft resolution IX
Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, in which the peoples of the world proclaimed their determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[40]

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing the significant and commendable role played by the United Nations, since its very inception, in the field of decolonization, and noting the emergence, during this period, of more than one hundred States into sovereign existence,

[40] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Noting with satisfaction, in particular, that during the past fifty years a large number of former colonial Territories have achieved independence and that many former Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories have exercised their right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting also with satisfaction the important contribution made by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in furthering the aims and objectives of the Declaration,

Noting further with satisfaction the active and important role being played by former colonial Territories, as States Members of the United Nations and members of the other organizations of the United Nations system, in the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter, the preservation of international peace and security, decolonization and the promotion of human progress, as well as the profound impact thereof on contemporary international relations,

Stressing the importance of formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee with a view to furthering the process of decolonization and self-determination and encouraging them to continue doing so,

Conscious of the fact that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples has played an important role in assisting the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and will continue to serve as an inspiration in their efforts to achieve self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter and in mobilizing world public opinion for the complete elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting with satisfaction the work accomplished by the regional seminars held by the Special Committee during the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Deeply concerned about the fact that, fifty years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, colonialism in the world has not yet been totally eradicated,

Increasingly aware of the importance of economic, social and cultural development and self-reliance of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their peoples for the attainment and consolidation of genuine self-government and independence,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Determined to take effective measures leading to the complete and unconditional elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations without further delay,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of all peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;[41]

2. *Declares* that the continuation of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration and the principles of international law;

3. *Urges* Member States to do their utmost to promote, in the United Nations and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, effective measures for the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in all Non-Self-Governing Territories to which the Declaration applies;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers and other Member States to ensure that the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial Territories do not run counter to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories and do not impede the implementation of the Declaration;

5. *Requests* Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the colonial Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

6. *Reiterates the view* that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of their inalienable right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the Declaration, which fully applies to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* that all administering Powers are obliged, under the Charter and in accordance with the Declaration, to create economic, social and other conditions in the Territories under their administration that will enable those Territories to achieve genuine self-government and economic self-reliance;

8. *Requests* the administering Powers to preserve the cultural identity, as well as the national unity, of the Territories under their administration and to encourage the full development of the indigenous culture, with a view to facilitating the unfettered exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by the peoples of those Territories;

9. *Considers it incumbent* upon the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the process of decolonization and to intensify its efforts for the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with a view to the further mobilization of international public opinion in support of complete decolonization;

10. *Urges* Member States to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

11. *Invites* non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization to intensify their activities in cooperation with the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the full compliance of all States with resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on the question of decolonization, to seek the most suitable ways for the speedy and

[41] Resolution 1514 (XV).

total application of the Declaration to all Territories to which it applies and to propose to the General Assembly specific measures for the complete implementation of the Declaration in the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Invites* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in the complete fulfilment of its mandate.

Draft resolution X
Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

The General Assembly,

Recalling that 2010 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[42]

Recalling also its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, by which the General Assembly declared the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, by which it adopted a plan of action for the Decade,[43] and resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[44] including the renewal of the call to States Members of the United Nations to speed up the process of decolonization towards the complete elimination of colonialism, including by supporting the effective implementation of the plan of action of the Second Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (2001-2010),[45]

Bearing in mind also that the participants in the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010 called for the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to propose the declaration of a new decade for the eradication of colonialism,[46]

Recalling its resolution 64/106 of 10 December 2009, in which it reconfirmed the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146, and reaffirmed its determination to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[47] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[48]

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[42] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[43] See A/46/634/Rev.1, annex.

[44] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[45] Ibid., para. 43.5.

[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/65/23), chap. II.

[47] Resolution 217 A (III).

[48] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Having examined the relevant reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the plans of action for the International Decades,[49]

Taking into account the important contribution of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, in particular through the Special Committee,

1. *Declares* the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify their efforts to continue to implement the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[50] and to cooperate with the Special Committee in updating it as necessary, with a view to using it as the basis for a plan of action for the Third International Decade;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

4. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, actively to support and participate in the implementation of the plan of action during the Third International Decade;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the successful implementation of the plan of action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-fifth sessions on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[49] A/44/800, A/45/624, A/46/593 and Add.1, A/46/634/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1, A/54/219, A/55/497, A/56/61, A/60/71 and Add.1 and A/64/70.

[50] A/56/61, annex.

Annex I

List of documents of the Special Committee in 2010

Document symbol	*Title*	*Date*
Documents issued in the general series		
A/AC.109/2010/INF/1	List of delegations	June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/1	Letter dated 1 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Special Committee	9 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/2	British Virgin Islands (working paper)	8 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/3	Tokelau (working paper)	10 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/4	Pitcairn (working paper)	12 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/5	Cayman Islands (working paper)	16 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/6	Bermuda (working paper)	18 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/7	Montserrat (working paper)	17 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/8	Saint Helena (working paper)	22 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/9	Anguilla (working paper)	24 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/10	Turks and Caicos Islands (working paper)	1 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/11	Western Sahara (working paper)	5 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/12	American Samoa (working paper)	8 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/13	United States Virgin Islands (working paper)	10 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/14	Guam (working paper)	12 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/15	Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (working paper)	16 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/16	Gibraltar (working paper)	18 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/17	New Caledonia (working paper)	19 April 2010
A/AC.109/2010/18	Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: assessment of decolonization process in today's world, to be held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010: guidelines and rules of procedure	15 March 2010
A/AC.109/2010/19	Dissemination of information on decolonization during the period from April 2009 to March 2010: report of the Secretary-General	24 March 2010

Document symbol	*Title*	*Date*
Documents issued in the limited series		
A/AC.109/2010/L.1	Organization of work: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly: note by the Secretary-General	21 December 2009
A/AC.109/2010/L.2	Organization of work: note by the Chair	29 January 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.3	Increase in the membership of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft decision submitted by the Chair	9 February 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.4	Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico: report prepared by the Rapporteur of the Special Committee, Bashar Ja'afari (Syrian Arab Republic)	22 April 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.5	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	9 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.6	Dissemination of information on decolonization: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	9 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.7	Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	9 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.8	Special Committee decision of 15 June 2009 concerning Puerto Rico: draft resolution submitted by Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	17 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.9	Question of New Caledonia: draft resolution submitted by Fiji and Papua New Guinea	21 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.10	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	16 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.11	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	16 June 2010

Document symbol	*Title*	*Date*
A/AC.109/2010/L.12	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	17 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.13	Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	17 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.14	Report of the Special Committee on decisions concerning organizational matters	23 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.15	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): draft resolution submitted by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	18 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.16	Question of Tokelau: draft resolution submitted by Fiji and Papua New Guinea	21 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.17	Fiftieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	18 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.18	Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: draft resolution submitted by the Chair	18 June 2010
A/AC.109/2010/L.19	Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft decision submitted by the Chair	23 June 2010

Annex II

Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: assessment of the decolonization process in today's world, held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 55/146, the General Assembly declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and called upon Member States to redouble their efforts to implement the plan of action set out in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General (A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1), updated where necessary, to serve as the plan of action for the Second Decade. The report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/56/61) contains an updated plan of action.

2. In its resolution 64/106, the General Assembly approved the programme of work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples envisaged for 2010, which included the holding of a seminar in the Pacific region to be organized by the Special Committee and attended by the representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

3. The objective of the seminar was to enable the Special Committee to hear the views of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, experts, members of civil society and other stakeholders in the process of decolonization. It assessed the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including follow-up to the 2008 Pacific regional seminar, and aimed to identify policy approaches and practical ways of dealing with the challenges and opportunities in the process of decolonization in a changing world. The seminar also assessed the constitutional evolution of the Non-Self-Governing Territories towards self-government and self-determination, with a view to developing, in cooperation with the administering Powers and representatives of the Territories, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Furthermore, the seminar aimed to further identify areas in which the United Nations system and the international community at large could enhance programmes of assistance to Territories within an integral framework, particularly to ensure the sustainable socio-economic development of the Territories concerned.

4. The seminar also aimed to assess the progress achieved thus far in the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Second International Decade on the Eradication of Colonialism as the Decade comes to an end, and to identify priority actions for the remaining year of the Decade and possible approaches and priorities beyond 2010.

5. The contributions of the participants were intended to serve as a basis for further consideration by the Special Committee at its substantive session in June 2010, with a view to submitting proposals to the General Assembly concerning the

fulfilment of the objectives of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

II. Organization of the seminar

6. The seminar was held in Nouméa, New Caledonia, from 18 to 20 May 2010. It held five meetings, in which representatives of States Members of the United Nations, Non-Self-Governing Territories, administering Powers, non-governmental, regional and other organizations and experts took part. The seminar was organized in such a way as to encourage an open and frank exchange of views.

7. The seminar was conducted by Donatus Keith St. Aimee, Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations and Chair of the Special Committee, with the participation of the following members of the Committee: Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Cuba, Indonesia, Mali, Papua New Guinea and Saint Lucia. France, New Zealand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, administering Powers, participated as observers. Representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Morocco and Spain also participated.

8. At the 1st meeting, on 18 May 2010, Robert G. Aisi (Papua New Guinea) was appointed Vice-Chair of the seminar. Tumasie Blair (Antigua and Barbuda) was appointed Rapporteur of the seminar.

9. The agenda of the seminar was as follows:

1. The role of the Special Committee in facilitating the decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories within the framework of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:

(a) Analysis of results, ongoing processes and prevailing trends at the end of the Second Decade;

(b) Assessments and lessons learned;

(c) What comes next?

2. The perspectives of the Special Committee, the administering Powers and territorial Governments, as well as the views of experts and civil society, on the resolution of the remaining challenges:

(a) In the Pacific region Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) In the Caribbean region Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(c) In other Non-Self-Governing Territories.

3. The role of the United Nations system in providing developmental assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories:

(a) Presentations by the United Nations Development Programme and others;

(b) Perspectives of the Special Committee, the administering Powers and territorial Governments, and the views of experts and civil society.

4. The way forward: advancing the decolonization process with all concerned.

III. Proceedings of the seminar

A. Opening of the seminar

10. On 18 May, Donatus Keith St. Aimee (Saint Lucia) opened the seminar in his capacity as the Chair. The statement of the Chair appears in appendix I to the present report.

11. At the same meeting, Philippe Gomés, the President of the Government of New Caledonia addressed the seminar.

12. The High Commissioner of France in New Caledonia, Yves Dassonville, also addressed the seminar.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Decolonization Unit, Department of Political Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, read out a message from the Secretary-General.

B. Statements and discussions[a]

14. At the 1st meeting, on 18 May, the Chair made a statement (see appendix I). Statements were also made by the President of the Government of New Caledonia, Philippe Gomés, and Victor Tutugoro of the Political Bureau of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste.

15. At the same meeting, Mr. Gomés also responded to questions and comments made by the representatives of Papua New Guinea, Morocco, Algeria, Mali and Cuba.

16. At the 2nd meeting, on 18 May, the seminar heard presentations by two experts, Edward Paul Wolfers (Australia) and Yoko Oryu (Japan). Statements were also made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: Agence Kanak de développement (New Caledonia), Guahan and Chamorro Studies Association (Guam) and the Pitcairn Islands Study Center (United States). The observer for Gibraltar made a statement.

17. At the 3rd meeting, on 19 May, statements were made by the representatives of American Samoa, Tokelau, New Zealand and the Cayman Islands. One expert, Carlyle Corbin, made a statement. Representatives of Papua New Guinea and Cuba made statements. The representative of New Zealand made a further statement. The Chair also made a statement.

18. At the same meeting, the seminar heard statements by the representatives of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)* and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario). The representative of Morocco made a statement.

19. At the 4th meeting, on 19 May, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Spain and Algeria. The representatives of Morocco and Algeria made

[a] All statements and discussion papers of the seminar are available on the United Nations decolonization website, http://www.un.org/Depts/dpi/decolonization.

* A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

further statements. After a statement by the observer for Gibraltar, the representatives of Morocco, Algeria, Chile and Cuba also made statements.

20. At the same meeting, the seminar heard presentations by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and an expert, Carlyle Corbin. The representative of Papua New Guinea made a statement. A statement was also made by the representative of the Frente Polisario.

21. At its 5th meeting, on 20 May, the seminar held a general exchange of views on the way forward for the Special Committee, including priorities for the remainder of the Second International Decade and possible approaches and priorities beyond the Second Decade. The representative of Indonesia made a statement.

C. Closing of the seminar

22. At the 5th meeting on 20 May, the Rapporteur presented the draft report of the seminar.

23. At the same meeting, the President of the Government of New Caledonia addressed the seminar.

24. At the same meeting, the Chair made a closing statement.

25. Also at the same meeting, the participants adopted by acclamation a draft resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of France and New Caledonia (see appendix II).

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

26. Members of the Special Committee participating in the seminar recalled the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the role of the Special Committee to examine the application of the Declaration, to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the General Assembly.

27. Participating members reaffirmed the continued relevance of the conclusions and recommendations of the previous seminars.

28. In addition, pursuant to rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the seminar (A/AC.109/2010/18, annex), participating members presented the conclusions and recommendations set out below to the substantive session of the Special Committee.

A. Assessment of the Second International Decade

29. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Noted the coming to an end of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, which coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. While reflecting on these landmark events, they assessed the progress

achieved, reviewed existing methods of work, and garnered renewed momentum with a view to completing the Special Committee's historic task, requiring continued efforts by the Committee beyond the Second Decade;

(b) Identified a number of cross-cutting issues in the process of decolonization during the Second Decade, including the impact of climate change, especially on Non-Self-Governing Territories, the global economic and financial crisis, the role of regional cooperation, education and public awareness, the role of women, the empowerment of vulnerable people, and the capacity for full self-governance;

(c) In view of the cross-cutting nature of the challenges faced by many Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dynamics of today's interconnected world, underlined that efforts must be made, through the involvement of relevant stakeholders and on a case-by-case basis, for the continued strengthening of administrative capacity, good governance and economic sustainability of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which would allow the Territories to address the cross-cutting issues in a holistic manner;

(d) Recognized the important role played by regional organizations and regional arrangements in assisting many Non-Self-Governing Territories in coping with various emerging challenges, and in this connection welcomed the participation in the seminar of the representatives of the Pacific Islands Forum and the Melanesian Spearhead Group;

(e) Underscored that education and public awareness, including of the indigenous people, remain crucial elements for decolonization and, in this connection, recalled the responsibility of the administering Powers to ensure that the peoples concerned would be in a position to make an informed decision regarding their future political status in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(f) Stressed the important role of women in the process of decolonization, including in education, poverty eradication and community empowerment;

(g) Recognized the role of the business community, including non-governmental organizations, in the development process and in facilitating the achievement of economic sustainability and the well-being of the peoples in the Territories through good corporate citizenship in their business practices;

(h) Underscored the fact that status-related and/or constitutional review exercises in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were delicate processes that should meet certain expectations on a case-by-case basis;

(i) Recognized that enhanced interactions and cooperation between the Special Committee and the administering Powers remain crucial to the implementation of the United Nations decolonization mandate and would be beneficial to all stakeholders, including the administering Powers themselves, and in this connection welcomed the participation of France, New Zealand and the United Kingdom in the seminar;

(j) Recognized also the importance of active engagement from other States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Special Committee in the work of the Committee, and in that connection welcomed the participation of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Morocco and Spain in the seminar.

B. Assessment of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific region

30. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Welcomed the participation of the representatives of American Samoa, New Caledonia and Tokelau and the information they provided to the seminar, and also welcomed the participation of experts and representatives of civil society of Guam and New Caledonia and a representative of the Pitcairn Islands Study Center, who shared their views on the process of decolonization in the above Territories;

(b) With regard to the current constitutional developments in American Samoa, took note of the information provided to the seminar by the Governor of the Territory and commended the efforts of the territorial Government with a view to enhancing public awareness of the ongoing preparations for submitting constitutional amendments;

(c) Took note of restrictions faced by the territorial Government in the use of land, the disposal of funds allocated by the administering Power, and the impact of the United States-level minimum wage laws on the Territory's economy;

(d) Expressed appreciation for the invitation addressed to the Special Committee to pay a visit to the Territory during its constitutional convention to be held in June 2010;

(e) With regard to the situation in Guam, expressed concern over the impact of a United States military build-up in the Territory on the cultural identity and the use of land by the indigenous people;

(f) Stressed the need for continued close monitoring of the situation in the Territory;

(g) With regard to New Caledonia, expressed their appreciation for the statements made by the President of the Government of New Caledonia, the High Commissioner of France and Kanak representatives and the information they provided;

(h) Took note of the political, socio-economic and cultural steps taken by the territorial Government of New Caledonia in the implementation of the Nouméa Accord aimed at correcting the existing imbalances;

(i) Recognized that, in a territory with such a large indigenous population, traditional governance structures and cultural practices could enhance good governance and provide stability;

(j) Recognized the value of the experience of the decolonization process in New Caledonia;

(k) With regard to the situation in Pitcairn, welcomed the enhancement of decision-making in the Territory through the restructuring of its governance system;

(l) Welcomed the introduction of human rights provisions into the 2010 Constitution;

(m) Encouraged the administering Power to provide the required personnel training to enable the islanders to run their restructured administration;

(n) Took note of the specific circumstance of the Territory, including its size and remote location, among other things, which would pose particular challenges for self-determination;

(o) With regard to Tokelau, expressed their appreciation for the statements made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau and a representative of New Zealand as the administering Power;

(p) Took note of Tokelau's intention to exercise its right to self-determination again some time in the near future and, meanwhile, concentrate on addressing its pressing economic needs;

(q) Encouraged the Territory and the administering Power to continue their close cooperation with a view to concluding a new three-year package of funding for Tokelau and to find the right balance between the principles of equity and viability in the implementation of the process of decolonization.

C. Challenges and opportunities in the process of decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean region and other Territories, including follow-up to the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar

31. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Welcomed the participation in the Pacific regional seminar of the representatives of the Cayman Islands and Western Sahara, and of the observer for Gibraltar, and the information they provided, and also welcomed the presentation by an expert, who shared his views on the process of decolonization in the Caribbean region;

(b) With regard to the Cayman Islands, took note of the promulgation of a new Constitution in November 2009, following its approval in a referendum, and of the reaffirmed position of the territorial Government that it had no mandate from its people to pursue full political independence;

(c) With regard to Western Sahara, recalled the mandate of the Special Committee towards self-determination for the people of Western Sahara, and reaffirmed all relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 64/101, and supported Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009) and 1920 (2010) and the commitment of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara to finding a solution to the question of Western Sahara in this context. They called on the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue in order to enter into a more intensive and substantive phase of negotiations, thus ensuring implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions and the success of the negotiations. They reiterated the call made at previous regional seminars to the parties to continue such negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General without preconditions and in good faith, taking into account efforts made since 2006 and subsequent developments, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, that would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

(d) With regard to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), recalled the relevant General Assembly and Special Committee resolutions and decisions on that question, which encouraged the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom with the aim of finding a lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute, taking into account the interests of the population of the Islands, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(e) With regard to the question of Gibraltar, welcomed the continuing work of the Forum of Dialogue on Gibraltar involving Spain, the United Kingdom and the territorial Government.

D. Role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories

32. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Welcomed the participation of a representative of UNDP at the seminar and appreciated the information on assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories provided by the representative;

(b) Encouraged the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee, including participation at the forthcoming regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

(c) Supported the role of United Nations regional commissions in enhancing and expanding the involvement of Non-Self-Governing Territories in their activities as associate members, in particular the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with their mandates and the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization.

E. Analysis and assessment of the Second International Decade and the way forward

33. As their recommendations, participating members:

(a) Reaffirmed that all peoples have the right to self-determination, and by virtue of that right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) Also reaffirmed that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) Reconfirmed that the United Nations had a valid ongoing role in the process of decolonization, that the mandate of the Special Committee was a major programme of the Organization, and that United Nations support should be provided

until all outstanding decolonization issues have been resolved in a satisfactory manner;

(d) Reaffirmed the role of the Special Committee as the primary vehicle for fostering the process of decolonization as well as for monitoring the situation in the Territories;

(e) Underlined the importance for the Special Committee to develop a proactive and focused approach, in fulfilment of the goal of decolonization vis-à-vis the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the United Nations list. The Special Committee needed to continue to approach each case with an open mind, to build on the available options and to bring about more dynamism in the decolonization process;

(f) In view of the contribution of various regional organizations and regional arrangements to the capacity-building of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in coping with emerging challenges, advised that effective participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in relevant regional organizations and regional arrangements needed to be facilitated, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and through the appropriate mechanisms, along with the strengthening of concrete regional functional cooperation in various areas, such as natural disaster preparedness and community empowerment;

(g) Also in view of the important role of regional organizations and regional arrangements in providing assistance to the relevant Non-Self-Governing Territories in support of the process of decolonization, suggested that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate and the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, strengthen its interactions and collaboration with relevant regional and subregional organizations;

(h) On the issue of public outreach to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on decolonization issues, advised the Special Committee, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to promote a public awareness campaign aimed at fostering an understanding among the people of the Territories of the options for self-determination in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including to complement their ongoing efforts and ensure that the information provided effectively reaches the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(i) On the issue of education, suggested that the relevant territorial Governments and the administering Powers consider incorporating decolonization issues into the school curriculum of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(j) In view of the important role of women in the process of decolonization, underlined the fact that gender equality needed to continue to be supported, which would contribute to good governance and enhanced capacity for self-governance through equal rights for all;

(k) On the status-related and/or constitutional review exercises and the overall process of decolonization, stressed that such processes should be approached on a case-by-case basis and in a way that is respectful of human rights, transparent, accountable, inclusive and participatory with the involvement of the people concerned, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions

on decolonization and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(l) On the relationship with administering Powers, advised that interactions and cooperation between the Special Committee and the administering Powers should continue to be nurtured and strengthened through various possible platforms and means, and reaffirmed that all administering Powers, particularly those which have not done so, needed to engage effectively with the Special Committee;

(m) In view of the valuable contribution of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the seminar, reiterated that the Special Committee, through the proper mechanism and with the assistance of the Secretariat, should continue to work towards full participation of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in future seminars. The administering Powers should facilitate the participation of the elected representatives of the Territories in the seminars in conformity with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations;

(n) The Special Committee should re-tool its methods of work and hone its capacity to conduct the seminars in an innovative manner in order to allow the Committee to better hear the views of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(o) On the role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, stressed that the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies needed to engage with the work of the Special Committee and strengthen their efforts, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and through the appropriate mechanism, in providing assistance the Non-Self-Governing Territories; in that regard, the Special Committee needed to develop ways and means to encourage the participation of those agencies and bodies;

(p) Advised the Special Committee that it needed to develop ways and means through which it could make a better assessment, on a case-by-case basis, of the current stage of decolonization and self-determination in each Non-Self-Governing Territory in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, which could serve as a checklist of the progress achieved and things to be done, and in that connection, invited the Special Committee to consider the suggestion to develop a specific project proposal;

(q) Reiterated that the Special Committee needed to continue working towards sending visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, with the involvement of the relevant territorial Government and administering Power, on a case-by-case basis, and in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, and in that regard, noted the interest expressed at the seminar by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in such visiting and special missions;

(r) Suggested again that the Special Committee needed to consider proposing to the General Assembly the possibility of launching a Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, reaffirming that the process of decolonization was incomplete until all the outstanding decolonization issues were resolved in a satisfactory manner;

(s) Within the context of calls for a Third International Decade, the Special Committee should vigorously undertake a stocktaking of current challenges for the decolonization process and draw up a pragmatic plan of action for the Third Decade, which could in turn be evaluated within the framework of the Decade itself.

Appendix I

Statement by the Chair

When the United Nations was founded in 1945, some 750 million people, nearly a third of the world's population, lived in territories that were dependent on colonial powers. Today, fewer than 2 million people live under colonial rule in the 16 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. The wave of decolonization, which changed the face of the planet, was born with the United Nations and represents the world body's first great success.

Affirming the principle of self-determination, the Charter describes the responsibility of States for the territories under their administration as "a sacred trust" in which the interests of their inhabitants are paramount. As the process of decolonization continued to advance, the General Assembly, in 1960, adopted its landmark Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Declaration affirmed the right of all people to self-determination and proclaimed that colonialism should be brought to a speedy and unconditional end. Soon after, a Special Committee on decolonization was established to monitor its implementation. Since the creation of the United Nations, 80 former colonies have gained their independence. This includes all 11 Trust Territories, which have achieved self-determination through independence or free association with an independent State.

In 1990, the Assembly proclaimed the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (1990-2000), which included a specific plan of action. In 2001, it was followed by a Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. Today, the Special Committee continues to monitor the situation in the remaining 16 Territories, working to facilitate their advance towards self-determination.

In 2010, the challenge for everyone is to think within the context of present realities and a sustainable future. It is not for the United Nations to determine the best outcomes — the General Assembly is primarily concerned with whether choices are made freely by the people, based on appropriate information and understanding. So the Committee wants to listen closely to what the peoples concerned have to say, in the hope of offering proposals to the Assembly, on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the requirement of free consent.

The value of seminars like this one is to provide a venue for various views and opinions by the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, experts, members of civil society and other stakeholders in the process of decolonization to be expressed in an open and constructive manner. The Committee attaches great importance to hearing the voices of the people from the Territories, whom it supports in the search for the appropriate ways of self-determination.

Each Non-Self-Governing Territory still on the United Nations decolonization list has a unique mix of circumstances, often involving quite complex political issues. It is essential that "creative thinking" that is sensitive to the circumstances is used by all concerned in addressing these issues, as there is no "one size fits all" solution. For instance, the wishes of small island States need to reflect their unique vulnerabilities in terms of survival in the modern world. Sixty years down the track from General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV), the world has changed — today,

major issues of sustainability (in economic, environmental and social terms) confront everyone, but especially smaller, more vulnerable societies.

The challenges of climate change will require significant international cooperation, often relying more closely on neighbours and long-established relationships. There are wrongs that need to be corrected. This is extremely important — it applies to all peoples, even in the biggest of the States.

Hence it is important for the United Nations to hear the views of Non-Self-Governing Territories on how they see their own future in an interconnected world. The choices of current generations require thinking ahead and considering the interests of future generations as best as possible.

Regional and subregional organizations such as the European Union, the Organization of American States, the African Union, the Caribbean Community and the Pacific Islands Forum today play a far more important role than they did in the past. The growing importance of such organizations can provide a significant focal point for participation and interaction of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and "creative discussions" of decolonization options.

The fact that 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including some in the Pacific, remain on the list, suggests the need for "creative solutions", provided such solutions always reflect the core principle of free choice, and that it is primarily up to the people and the relevant administering Powers to come up with proposals and ideas about what future political status they would like to have. But the United Nations has a mandate, within the framework of the Charter and the key General Assembly resolutions, to assist. That is the point of this discussion in New Caledonia.

At this seminar we are going to assess the socio-economic and political developments in the Territories with a view to working out, in cooperation with the administering Powers and representatives of the Territories, a realistic, action-oriented programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the way forward in advancing the decolonization process. To this end, we need to look again at the merits of comprehensive reviews of the situation in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories as provided for in the plan of action for the Second Decade.

The implementation of the plan as a whole requires thorough consideration. Within its framework, we are going to assess the progress of decolonization actions at the international level, measures undertaken by the United Nations in cooperation with the administering Powers, as well as the impact of developmental activities and programmes carried out by the United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in the Territories.

But first and foremost, we are going to review the actions of the Special Committee in analysing the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in each Territory. We also need to evaluate the Committee's role in following the impact of the economic and social developments on the constitutional and political advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as well as its efforts aimed at ensuring the full cooperation of the administering Powers in this matter.

I trust that after these deliberations we can come up with a plan for the way forward, as neither the work of the Special Committee nor the process of decolonization end with this seminar or with the end of the Second Decade.

Appendix II

Resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of France and New Caledonia

The participants in the Pacific regional seminar,

Having met from 18 to 20 May 2010 in Nouméa, New Caledonia, to assess the decolonization process in today's world,

Having heard an important statement by the President of the Government of New Caledonia,

Taking note of the important statements by the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Express their profound gratitude to the Government and the people of France and New Caledonia for providing the Special Committee with the necessary facilities for its seminar, for the outstanding contribution they have made to the success of the seminar and, in particular, for the very generous and kind hospitality and the warm and cordial reception accorded to the participants throughout their stay in New Caledonia.

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